

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 935

By Davis

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Alfred Smith Wheelock on his promotion to Commander of the Washington County Chapter of the Tennessee Constables Association.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as talented professionals of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such individual, Alfred "Al" Smith Wheelock, exemplifies those characteristics of public service, integrity, and dedication that the members of this General Assembly most admire and respect; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wheelock answered his country's call to duty during World War II, when he served for two years in the United States Army and received the following medals: World War II Victory, Occupational, Good Conduct, and Marksmanship; and

WHEREAS, Al Wheelock's devotion to country and state has continued throughout his career as evidenced by his thirty-seven years of service as an elected Constable of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, as a Constable, Mr. Wheelock does not receive any monetary compensation, and his expenses in the line of duty are not reimbursed, but for Al Wheelock, the knowledge that his friends and neighbors are safe provides ample reward; and

WHEREAS, Al Wheelock has continued this generous public service even through periods of personal tragedy, but despite these individual hardships, Mr. Wheelock has maintained his commitment to protecting the good people of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his service and the high regard in which he is held by his colleagues, Mr. Wheelock received a promotion to Commander of the Washington County Chapter of the Tennessee Constables Association in February of 2004; and



WHEREAS, Al Wheelock also was recently nominated for the J. Edgar Hoover Gold Medal Award, a national award bestowed annually on deserving law enforcement officials; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wheelock has received previous recognition on the state level from the Department of Tennessee, Veterans of Foreign Wars who named him Law Officer of the Year for 2004; this accolade is presented to an officer who evidences such honorable traits as compassion for human rights, knowledge of the law, integrity, and impeccable job performance; and

WHEREAS, Al Wheelock has been a member of the VFW's Colorguard since 1998, providing honor and dignity at the final resting place of over 600 fellow soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wheelock has received numerous awards and recognitions for his service to his nation, state, region, and community; among those commendations are the "Appreciation for Many Years of Dedicated Service and Contributions" award presented by the Gray Community in 2002 and the Danny Thomas Award of Thanks for Support from the Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, the successful owner of the East Tennessee Paving Company for eighteen years, Al Wheelock has also found many selfless ways to give back to the community through his business; one noteworthy example is when he provided time, materials, and equipment to help build the first ball field for children in the Gray community, a location which he now patrols to ensure that the children have a safe place to play; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable record of public service has made him a role model for his community, but even more than the community's adoration, Al Wheelock enjoys the admiration, respect, and love of his family, which includes five children, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his lifetime of devotion to his family, his community, his state, and his nation, Al Wheelock has epitomized the dedicated public servant, and the State of Tennessee appreciates his many contributions to the safety and protection of our citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Alfred Smith Wheelock on his promotion to Commander of the Washington County Chapter of the Tennessee Constables Association, extend our best wishes for success in the selection process for the J. Edgar Hoover Gold Medal Award, and thank him for his countless years of service to our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.